DARK HORSE COMICS
40 YEARS

CURIOUS OBJECTS™

YOUNG HELLBOY™

#1 OF 4

Featuring
SCARLETT SANTIAGO: THE SKY DEVIL!
in
The **DEVIL'S PLATEAU**

THRILLING SKY ADVENTURES

MIKE MIGNOLA
THOMAS SNIEGOSKI
CRAIG ROUSSEAU
CHRIS O'HALLORAN

YOUNG HELLBOY™

Thrilling Sky Adventures

In a comic adventure within a comic adventure, Scarlett Santiago may have beaten too many villains to keep a low profile on the streets anymore. To keep herself safe and defeat the bad guys who are after her, she may need to team up with a mysterious feline figure who has similar goals.

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THE BUREAU FOR PARANORMAL RESEARCH AND DEFENSE. FAIRFIELD, CONNECTICUT. 1947.

MORNING.

THIS IS THE LIFE, AIN'T IT, MAC?

Tasty Flakes!

NO SCHOOL 'CAUSE IT'S SATURDAY, A BOWL OF TASTY FLAKES--

--AND AN OLD **SKY DEVIL** COMIC WE AIN'T READ BEFORE.

WINTER ISSUE

THRILLING AIR STORIES

FEATURING THE REAL-LIFE ADVENTURES OF SCARLETT SANTIAGO: THE SKY DEVIL!

10¢

GROWWOF!

YOU REMEMBER SKY DEVIL, DON'T YA, PAL? **SCARLETT SANTIAGO?**

HER DAD WAS A CROP-DUSTER DOWN IN NEW MEXICO, WHICH IS WHERE SHE LEARNED TO FLY PLANES. HE GOT MIXED UP WITH SOME BAD GUYS FROM NEW YORK AND GOT HIMSELF KILLED.

SCARLETT TOOK THE LAW INTO HER OWN HANDS AND HAD TO GO ON THE RUN AND ENDED UP AT A CARNIVAL ROAD SHOW AS A BARN-STORMER DOING ALL SORTS OF **FANCY FLYING TRICKS.**

BUT MORE BAD GUYS WERE TRYING TO SHAKE DOWN THE CARNIVAL AND SCARLETT DECIDED SHE'D HAD ENOUGH.

HRRRRMM

SHE WORE A MASK SO NOBODY KNEW WHO SHE WAS AND USED HER FLYING SKILLS TO STOP THESE VILLAINS ONCE AND FOR ALL.

AND THE BOSS OF THE CARNIVAL KNEW THAT SCARLETT WAS THE ONE THAT SAVED HIS SHOW...

KRUNCH KRUNCH KRUNCH KRUNCH

...AND GAVE HER A DEVIL'S-HEAD BELT BUCKLE TO SAY THANKS, AND THE NICKNAME ***SKY DEVIL!***

THAT'S WHEN SHE LEFT THE ROAD SHOW AND STARTED TRAVELING THE WORLD IN HER PLANE AND GETTING INTO ALL SORTS OF ADVENTURES, ALL BEFORE SHE WAS TWENTY YEARS OLD!

THE CITY OF ANGELS.

THE LOS ANGELES MUSEUM OF ANCIENT ANTIQUITIES.

KRASSH

WHAT THE?!!

WONDER WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN IN THIS ONE, MAC?

WHIIIIIINEE

I KNOW! THE LAST ONE WE READ HAD MONKEYS WITH PEOPLE HEADS!

"LET'S SEE WHO THIS CREEPY GUY IS THAT BUSTED INTO THE MUSEUM!"

WHO... WHO'S THERE?

I WAS HOPING THAT I COULD COMPLETE MY TASK WITHOUT INTERRUPTION...

"...BUT IT APPEARS THAT WILL NOT BE THE CASE."

STAY RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE! I'M WARNING YOU...I'LL SHOOT!

BLAAM BLAAM

AAAHHIEEE!

FOR TOO LONG, THE NAKED MONKEYS HAVE RULED THIS WORLD...

WITH THIS KEY NOW IN MY POSSESSION, THEIR DOMINANCE WILL SOON BE AT AN END...

"...AND THE UJARAK WILL REIGN SUPREME!"

ALL RIGHT, YOU MUGS. LET'S GET THESE TRUCKS UNLOADED!

BOSS FAZZINA WANTS THESE CASES' A HOOCH READY FOR PICKUP BEFORE WE HEAD BACK OVER THE BORDER FOR THE NEXT DELIVERY.

"AND WE DON'T WANT TO DISAPPOINT THE BOSS IF WE KNOW WHAT'S GOOD FOR US!"

HEY, YOU HEAR SOMETHIN'?

YEAH, SOUNDS LIKE--

BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA

BRAKKA BRAKKA

HIT THE DIRT!

IT'S COMIN' FROM A PLANE!

BLAAM BLAAM

TAKE THAT, YOU FILTHY ANIMALS!

IT'S THE SKY DEVIL! FIRST ONE TO BLAST HER OUTTA THE SKY GETS A THOUSAND BUCKS!

BLAAM BLAAM

BANG BLAAM

AH, BLAST. BETTER SHOTS THAN I GAVE 'EM CREDIT FOR.

THWIPP

LOOKS LIKE I'M GONNA NEED TO CUT THIS PARTY SHORT.

BOOM

BOMBS AWAY!

SPECIAL DELIVERY FOR BOSS FAZZINA!

KABOOM

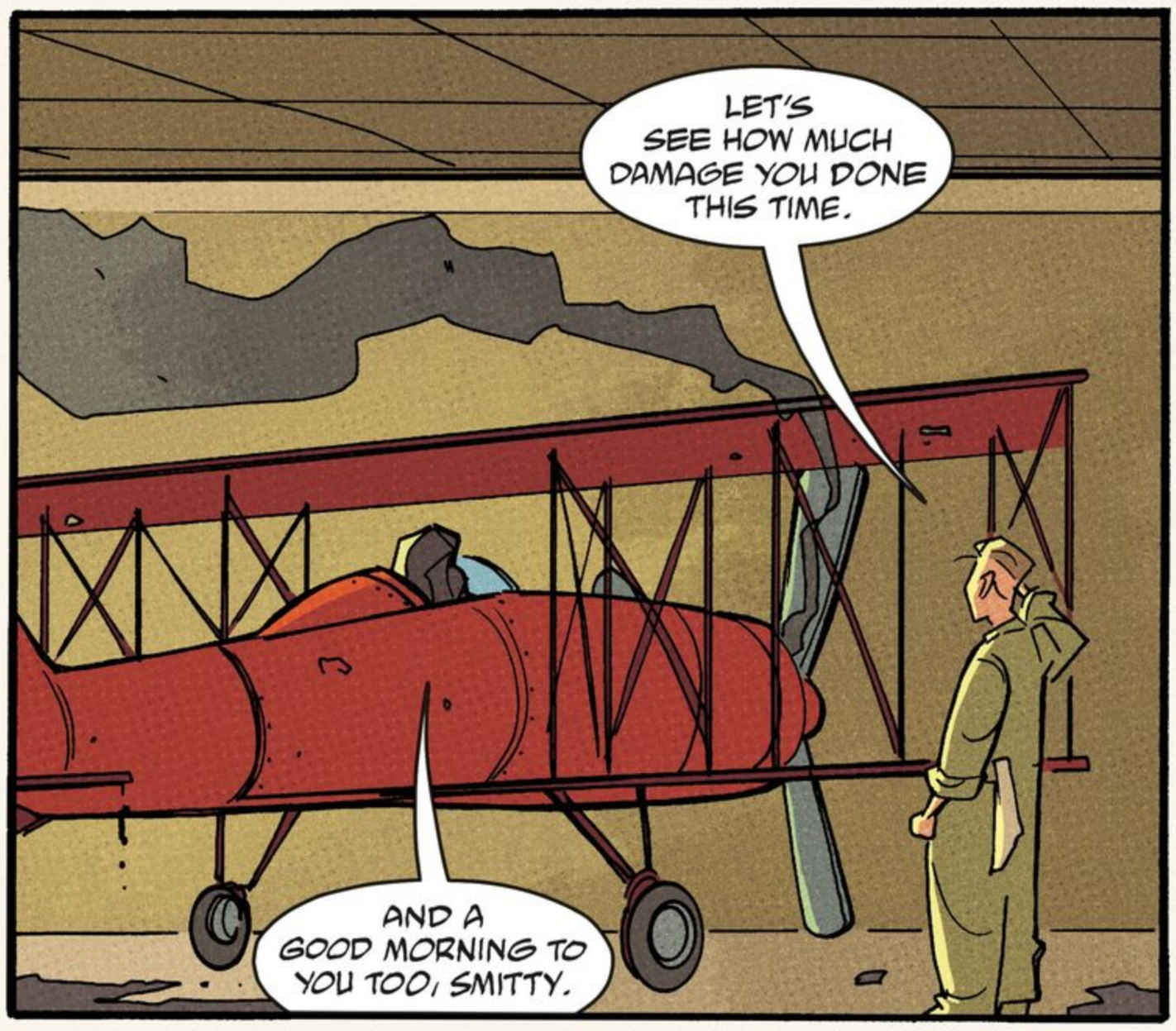
BEST REGARDS FROM THE SKY DEVIL!

SHE BLEW UP ALL THE BOOZE! WHAT'RE WE GONNA TELL THE BOSS?

WHATEVER WE TELL 'IM...

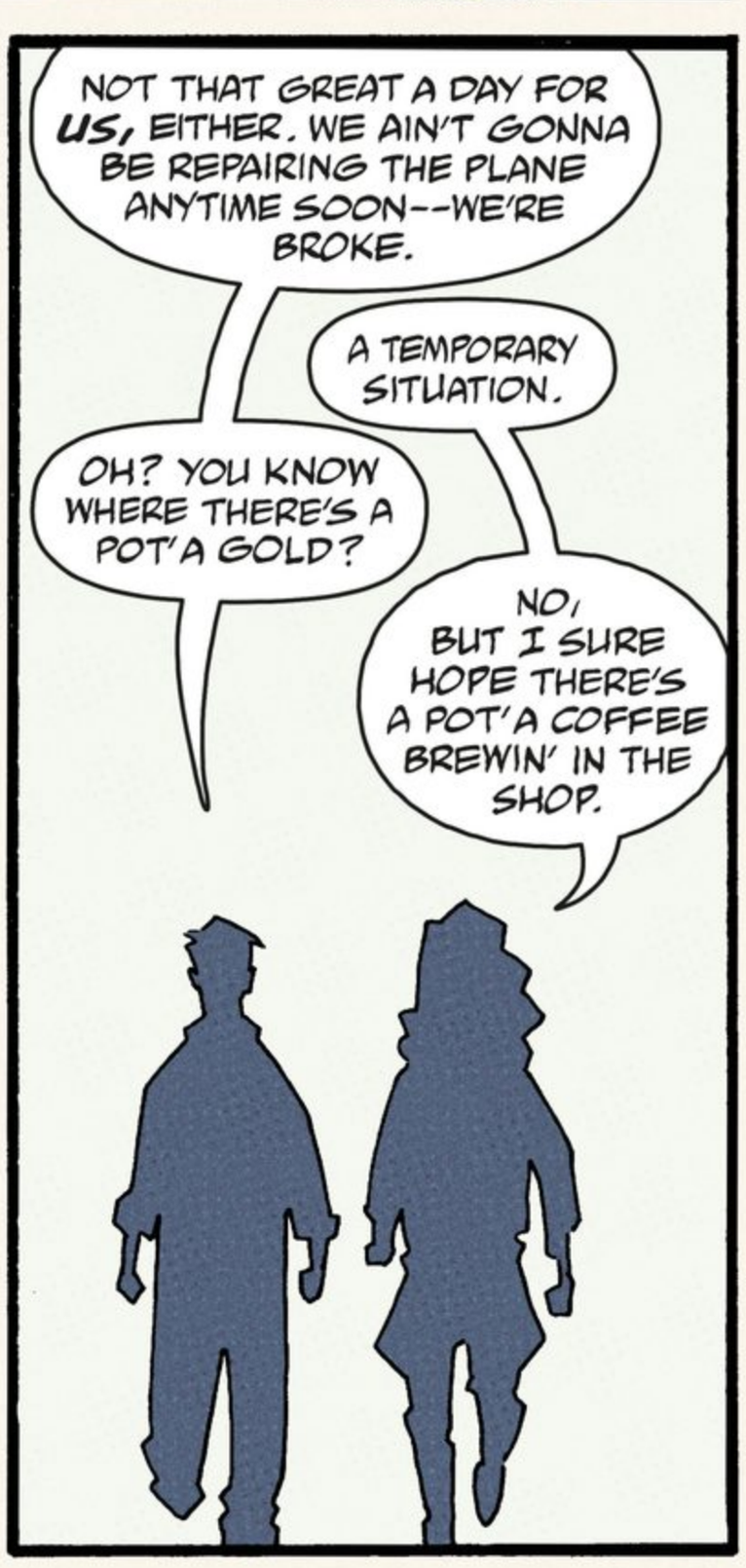
"...HE AIN'T GONNA BE HAPPY."

IT'S ABOUT TIME.


LET'S SEE HOW MUCH DAMAGE YOU DONE THIS TIME.
AND A GOOD MORNING TO YOU TOO, SMITTY.

AH- HUH, WINGS'RE CHEWED UP PRETTY GOOD. LOOKS LIKE YOU SAW SOME ACTION.

ALL PART OF THE PLAN MAKIN' SURE THAT ROCCO FAZZINA CONTINUES TO HAVE MORE BAD DAYS THAN GOOD, AND TODAY, MY FRIEND, IS A VERY BAD DAY FOR THE BOSS.


NOT THAT GREAT A DAY FOR US, EITHER. WE AIN'T GONNA BE REPAIRING THE PLANE ANYTIME SOON--WE'RE BROKE.
A TEMPORARY SITUATION.
OH? YOU KNOW WHERE THERE'S A POT'A GOLD?
NO, BUT I SURE HOPE THERE'S A POT'A COFFEE BREWIN' IN THE SHOP.

A CHATEAU IN THE DORDOGNE REGION OF FRANCE.

I'D LIKE TO THANK YOU ALL FOR COMING TO MY LITTLE SOIRÉE TONIGHT, AND I DO SO HOPE YOU ARE HUNGRY.

MANY OF YOU HAVE DINED WITH ME AT MY OTHER DINNER PARTIES, WHERE WE FED UPON THE RARE AND OBSCURE BOUNTY OF THE WORLD...

...BUT TONIGHT, MY ILLUSTRIOUS FRIENDS, WE FEAST ON SOMETHING ***TRULY*** SPECIAL!

DISCOVERED ON THE SHORES OF THE GREAT SALT LAKE CHOTT ECH CHERGUI IN NORTHWESTERN ALGERIA, THESE BEAUTIFUL CREATURES WERE ONCE PLENTIFUL...

...BUT, THE EARTH CAN BE A CRUEL AND SAVAGE PLACE...AND WHERE THERE WERE ONCE MANY, NOW THERE WAS ONLY ONE.

THE END OF A SPECIES, SOON TO BE NOTHING MORE THAN A MEMORY OF WHAT ONCE WAS.

I PRESENT TO YOU THE BUBAL HARTEBEEST, LAST OF ITS KIND!

WHAT AN HONOR WE'LL ALL SHARE TONIGHT AS WE SUP UPON ITS TENDER FLESH--AND, I WHOLEHEARTEDLY BELIEVE, THE COLLECTIVE ***SOUL*** OF AN ENTIRE SPECIES.

"MESDAMES AND MESSIEURS, *BON APPÉTIT!*"

KERRASSH

THE WAILS OF THOSE LIVES YOUR FOUL HUNGER HAS ***ERADICATED*** CRY OUT FOR VENGEANCE!

YEEARRGH!

THE SPIRITS OF THOSE WHO CAN NO LONGER FIGHT FOR THEMSELVES COMPEL ME TO ACT!

EEIEE!

URKK!

SWAK

HOW MANY SPECIES WERE ENDED TO FEED YOUR PERVERSE HUNGER...HOW MANY WERE YET TO BE FED UPON?

I...I PAID FOR THE ANIMALS!

THEY BELONG TO ME

OOUMPH!

SLAMM

THEY DID BELONG TO YOU.

GRRR

NO... PLEASE...

BUT I HAVE SET THEM FREE.

ROOAR!

ROSCOES

BAR

I CAN'T BELIEVE WE'RE BROKE *AGAIN!*

I *TOLD* YOU WE WAS BROKE. THE LAST OF THE WICHITA BARNSTORMIN' MONEY WENT TO BUY PARTS FOR THE TRIMOTOR.

UNLESS WE FIND SOME WORK PRONTO WE'RE PERMANENTLY GROUNDED; THE SKY DEVIL'S WINGS ARE CLIPPED.

I'VE ASKED AROUND, BUT YOUR REPUTATION PRECEDES YOU. NOBODY WANTS TO GET ON BOSS FAZZINA'S BAD SIDE. I WONDER WHY?

WE NEED A BETTER BATCH OF UNSAVORY CHARACTERS IF YOU ASK ME! LET ME TAKE A LITTLE SNOOZE, AND SEE IF I CAN... *SNORRK!*

YEAH, YOU TAKE CARE'A THAT, AND I'LL SEE IF I CAN DRUM ANYTHING UP TO KEEP US AFLOAT.

HEY, SLEEPIN' BEAUTY, RISE AND SHINE!

I AIN'T RISIN' OR SHININ' ANYTIME SOON.

WELL, YOU BETTER IF WE WANT THIS JOB.

HUH? DID SOME-ONE SAY JOB?

I AM IN NEED OF TRANSPORT TO VENEZUELA.

AND WE ARE THE BEST-- AND MOST DISCREET, I MIGHT ADD-- PURVEYORS OF THAT VERY SERVICE. HERE, THESE ARE OUR TERMS FOR YOUR QUICK PERUSAL.

HMM. YES, THESE APPEAR QUITE AGREEABLE. I ACCEPT YOUR TERMS, AND WOULD LIKE TO DEPART AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

EXCELLENT! PLEASURE DOIN' BUSINESS WITH YOU, SIR. SHOW UP IN THE MORNING TO THE ADDRESS I'VE SCRAWLED ON OUR CONTRACT. WE'LL GET YOU TO WHERE YOU'RE GOING PRONTO.

AND, JUST FOR THE RECORD, WHAT WILL WE BE TRANSPORTIN'?

MYSELF...MYSELF AND AN OBJECT OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE GLORIOUS DESTINY OF THE WORLD.

HEAR THAT, SMITTY? NOT ONLY DID WE GET US OURSELVES A JOB, IT'S IMPORTANT TO THE DESTINY OF THE WORLD!

GUY GIVES ME THE WILLIES, BUT NOT ENOUGH AS TO SAY NO TO AN ***UPFRONT*** CASH PAYMENT.

"SMITTY, I DO BELIEVE OUR LUCK IS ABOUT TO CHANGE!"

THAT'S RIGHT; I'VE GOT VALUABLE INFORMATION FOR BOSS FAZZINA.

HOW VALUABLE, YOU ASK? HOW'S ***SKY DEVIL*** VALUABLE SOUND?

PARRISH HOUSE. SOMERSET, ENGLAND.

CLARK HENRY PARRISH!

THE ANIMAL SPIRITS CALL UPON YOU AGAIN!

WHY CAN'T YOU LEAVE ME ALONE? I'M TIRED...I'M OH SO TIRED.

DID YOU SHOW SUCH MERCY TO THE BEASTS THAT YOU STALKED, KILLING FOR NO OTHER REASON THAN THE PLEASURE OF IT... OF THE SPORT?

YOU'VE SHOWN ME THE ERROR OF MY WAYS...I'VE...I'VE DONE MY PENANCE, I'VE SERVED YOUR CAUSE, WHEN WILL YOU RELEASE ME FROM--

UNTIL THE CRIES OF THE INNOCENT GO SILENT...

...YOU WILL BE THE INSTRUMENT OF THEIR RETRIBUTION.

FINE, LET'S GET ON WITH IT THEN. WHAT DO YOU NEED OF ME NOW?

IT IS HUMANITY AND THE **PLANET ITSELF** THAT ARE IN DANGER, FOR THE MACHINATIONS OF AN **ANCIENT EVIL** HAVE BEEN PUT IN MOTION ONCE MORE.

THIS KEY IS YOUR OBJECTIVE; IF ALLOWED TO REACH ITS DESTINATION, IT WILL HELP BRING ABOUT THE **END OF LIFE AS WE KNOW IT.**

YOUR PENANCE MUST CONTINUE TO BE PAID, CLARK HENRY PARRISH!

EARN YOUR EVENTUAL ABSOLUTION BY STOPPING THE KEY!

BECOME OUR AVATAR ONCE AGAIN.

SAVE THE WORLD.

AFTER... EXPERIENCING WHAT I HAVE...

...SEEING WHAT YOU'VE SHOWN ME...

...I SERIOUSLY WONDER IF IT'S WORTH SAVING.

THIS IS NOT FOR **YOU** TO DECIDE, CLARK HENRY PARRISH! GO!

"THE GHOST LEOPARD HAS A TASK TO PERFORM."

HOW'RE WE LOOKING, SMITTY?

LOOKIN' LIKE WE CAN GET ROLLING AS SOON AS OUR PASSENGER AND HIS DESTINY-CHANGIN' CARGO GET HERE!

THEN LET'S GET HER OUT ONTO THE RUNWAY.

OH! SPEAK'A THE DEVIL!

GOOD MORNING!

READY TO DEPART WHEN YOU ARE!

HERE, LET ME HELP YOU WITH THAT!

NO! I WOULD PREFER THE BAG STAY IN MY POSSESSION.

SUIT YOURSELF, HANG ON TO IT.

SMITTY TELLS ME THAT WE'RE TAKING YOU TO VENEZUELA. SOMEPLACE CALLED THE DEVIL'S PLATEAU? SOUNDS LOVELY!

RIGHT THIS WAY, MR. TAUT. WE'LL HAVE YOU IN VENEZUELA AND ON THE DEVIL'S PLATEAU IN NO TIME FLAT.

YRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRMMMM

WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?

BEATS THE HELL OUTTA...

VRRRRRRMM

AW, HELL!

LOOKS LIKE FAZZINA'S FOUND US!

LET'S NOT BE HASTY, MAYBE THEY'VE JUST TAKEN A WRONG TURN AND ARE LOOKIN' FOR DIRECTIONS.

BLANG

BANG BANG

BLAM BLAM

THERE THEY ARE! TAKE 'EM DOWN, **BOSS FAZZINA** WANTS THEIR HEADS!

PTAANG

YOU WAS SAYIN'?

NOBODY LIKES A **KNOW-IT-ALL,** SMITTY.

PEWWW

TO BE CONTINUED...

SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN... THIS MONSTER!"